

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 03494 171450Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /067 W
-----180452Z 081689 /20

R 171425Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6890
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY VICTORIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USCINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 3494

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, KE
SUBJECT: OGINGA ODINGA'S CANDIDACY FOR KANU VICE PRESIDENT

REF: NAIROBI 2829, NAIROBI 3425

1. EMBOFF WAS TOLD MARCH 17 BY ODINGA INTIMATE AND FORMER KENYA MINISTER OF INFORMATION, ACHIENG ONEKO, THAT "KIKUYU GROUP" INCLUDING SPECIFICALLY NJENGA KARUME (HEAD OF TRIBAL WELFARE ASSOCIATION GEMA) AND "MUNGAI PEOPLE" MET MARCH 10 WITH ODINGA SUPPORTERS TO PROPOSE THAT ODINGA ANNOUNCE HIS CANDIDACY FOR KANU VICE PRESIDENCY. ACCORDING TO OTIENO AMBALA, ANOTHER LEADING ODINGA ADVISER, A LUO GROUP (INCLUDING AMBALA) THEN CALLED ON ODINGA EVENING OF MARCH 12 AND PERSUADED HIM TO RUN.

2. ODINGA GROUP HAS NOW FORMALLY PETITIONED HIGH
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COURT TO INVALIDATE RECENT GRASS ROOTS ELECTIONS IN ODINGA'S HOME (SIAYA) DISTRICT ON GROUNDS THEY WER FRAUDULENTLY CONDUCTED. GROUP IS ALSO PLANNING SEEK COURT INJUNCTION PROHIBITING SIAYA KANU BRANCH OFFICIALS WHOSE ELECTION IS BEING CHALLENGED FROM REPRESENTING DISTRICT IN APRIL 3 NATIONAL KANU ELECTION PENDING RESOLUTION OF CASE BEFORE HIGH COURT.

3. COMMENT: DESPITE HIS GRASS ROOTS APPEAL AND THE PRESUMED SUPPORT OF THE KIKUYU GROUP, IT IS MOST UNLIKELY ODINGA CAN DEFEAT VP MOI IN THIS ELECTION. DELEGATES TO THE APRIL 3 CONVENTION HAVE ALREADY BEEN SELECTED, AND, FOR THE MOST PART, THEY ARE FAVORABLE TO MOI. NONETHELESS, IF ODINGA IS ALLOWED TO STAND, HE WILL BE MORE FORMIDABLE COMPETITION FOR MOI THAN HIS ONLY OTHER ANNOUNCED OPPONENT, EDUCATION MINISTER TOWEETT. IF, IN FACT, KIKUYU GROUP SUPPORTS ODINGA'S CANDIDACY, TOWEETT MAY WELL WITHDRAW BEFORE APRIL 3.

4. COPY OF ODINGA STATEMENT OF MARCH 16 POUCHED TO AF/E.

MARSHALL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PARTY LEADERS, ELECTION CANDIDATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: PINT, KE, (OGINGA ODINGA, JARAMOGI)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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